

# The History of Mount Hope Estate and Winery

Mount Hope Estate and Winery is indeed a grand property. Its long history spans four continuous generations of the Grubb family in unbroken sequence.

Peter Grubb of nearby Hopewell (1740-1786), established an iron furnace at Mount Hope in 1784. His son, Henry Bates Grubb (1774-1823) built the Federal period Mansion in 1800 and laid out the formal gardens that surround the Mansion today. His son, Clement Bates Grubb (1815-1889) managed Mount Hope from 1836 through 1845 and later purchased the property from the estate of his brother Alfred in 1885. Miss Daisy Elizabeth Brooke Grubb (1850-1936), Clement's daughter, was the last of the Grubbs to live at Mount Hope. It was she who enlarged and remodeled the mansion in 1895 thereby "Victorianizing" the home while still preserving the most important elements of the earlier Federal structure.

The following chronology briefly dates the important events in the history of Mount Hope Estate:

## 1779

The purchase of land for Mount Hope by Peter Grubb.

## 1784

Establishment of the charcoal furnace at Mount Hope by Peter Grubb.

## 1786

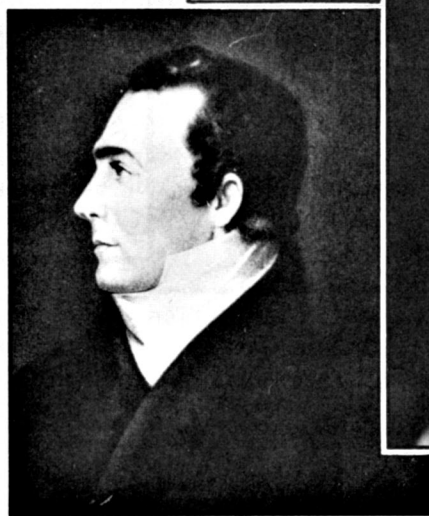
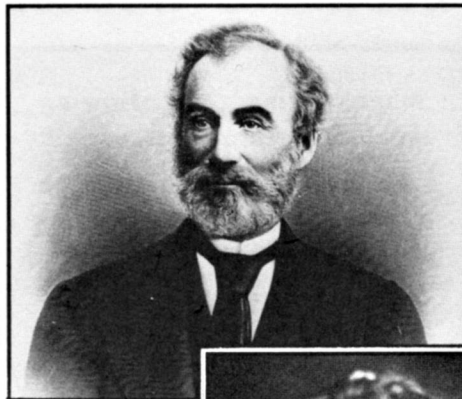
January 17 - suicide of Peter Grubb.

## c.1786-1793

Management of estate of the late Peter

Grubb for his two sons, Burd Grubb and Henry Bates Grubb, by Jasper Yeates, noted Lancaster attorney and judge. From 1789-1793, Mount Hope Furnace was rented to Cyrus Jacobs and Robert Coleman.

## Clement



Henry



Daisy

## 1793 and 1798

Transfer of Burd Grubb's rights in Mount Hope to his brother, Henry Bates Grubb.

## 1800-1805

Mount Hope Mansion built for Henry Bates Grubb; gardens designed at the same time. The 1800 Mount Hope Furnace Account Book identifies most of the craftsmen and suppliers of materials for this Federal structure. No architect per se is identified, but clearly a Philadelphia carpenter and joiner, Robert Dodge, was responsible for the most important work.

Under the year 1800, Henry Bates Grubb recorded expenses for the layout of the gardens, designating "An avenue ... a yard around the house ... fence with handsome gates ... A grand avenue and yard." These terms indicate that the basic formal garden layout dates c.1800. Possibly Henry

Bates Grubb designed the garden himself; many aspects of the layout resemble the gardens of c.1799 (now lost) at Ormiston Villa, the Philadelphia countryseat of Grubb's uncle, Edward Burd. Scattered bills indicate that the work concluded in 1805.

## 1823

March 9 - Death of Henry Bates Grubb at Mount Hope. Buried at St. James Episcopal Church, Lancaster.

## c.1823-1836

Management of Mount Hope Estate by Henry Bates Grubb's widow, Harriet Amelia Buckley Grubb.

## 1836-1845

Management and occupancy of Mount Hope by Clement B. Grubb, son of Henry Bates Grubb.

## 1845

October 29 - Sale of his half interest in Mount Hope by Clement B. Grubb to his brother Alfred B. Grubb for \$25,000.

## c.1845-1885

Occupancy of Mount Hope Mansion by Alfred B. Grubb and his family. Another furnace at Mount Hope was installed for Alfred B. Grubb about 1845.

## 1885

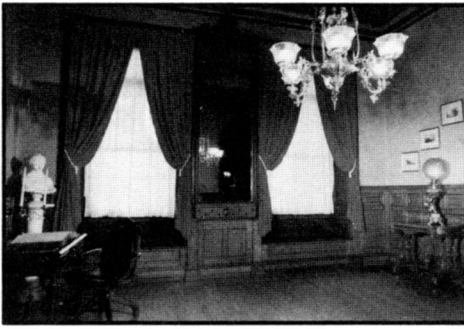
August 12 - Purchase by Clement B. Grubb of entire Mount Hope Estate from heirs of deceased brother Alfred for \$300,000. The deed for this transaction consumed 43 pages. The price was considered to be the highest ever paid at that time for any real estate in Lancaster County.

## 1885

Cessation of the functioning of the charcoal furnace at Mount Hope. All other functions of the large estate continued.

## c.1885

Probable time of minor alterations and refurbishing of Mount Hope Mansion by Clement B. Grubb and his wife, Mary Brooke Grubb. Although no documents are now known that pertain to this work, the parlor and possibly the elevator would seem to date from this period.



**1889**

October 31 - Death of Clement B. Grubb at his townhouse on North Lime Street, Lancaster. Buried at Woodward Hill Cemetery, Lancaster. His total estate was estimated at between four to six million dollars. He was considered to be the wealthiest person in Lancaster County.

**1889**

Mount Hope inherited by Clement B. Grubb's daughter, Miss Daisy Elizabeth Brooke Grubb, according to the terms of a codicil in her father's will.

**1895**

Enlargement and remodeling of Mount Hope Mansion to its present state for Miss Daisy E.B. Grubb. At present, no plans, specifications, bills, or receipts for this work are known to survive. The architect is unknown. The prime source for the documentation of this work is an account in the Lancaster New Era for July 27, 1895. It describes the remodeling of the entry hall, pink room, and dining room as being complete. The billiard room was then

Lancaster townhouse. Buried at Woodward Hill Cemetery, Lancaster. After the death of Daisy Grubb, Mount Hope was subdivided and sold from the Grubb family. It passed through several owners until December 1979, when the property was purchased by Mount Hope Estate and Winery. Extensive renovations to the home have been undertaken and continue today. Vineyards were planted and wine production commenced in the Spring of 1980.



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nearly finished, and work was commencing on the ballroom and conservatory. This article termed Mount Hope a "mountain home ... a grand rural retreat." The 1895 article identified some craftsmen, including the Lancaster Planing Mill as the source of interior woodwork, and W.H. Guthrie of Lancaster, as the painter.

**c.1895-1936**

Mount Hope used as a summer home by Miss Daisy E.B. Grubb. Miss Grubb also kept the family townhouse at North Lime Street in Lancaster and another townhouse at 2105 Walnut Street, Philadelphia.

**1936**

Death of Miss Daisy E.B. Grubb at the

